

MY TESTIMONY



“LOOK AT ALL YOU have to give up.”

The voice was angry. Desperate. Coming from within me. I was fearful, not understanding what was happening, yet knowing that I was in a life and death struggle with this voice within my head. It was more than just a voice; there was something very physical, very personal about this battle taking place within me.

What would I have to give up? It didn't matter. The fact that I was in this struggle made me realize that my decision to commit my life to Jesus on that early morning of December 1, 1976, proved that Jesus was real and what the Bible said about Him was true.

I didn't know what to do. I felt very much alone, afraid, as I climbed into my bed, covered my head, and did the only thing I had been taught throughout childhood to do—call upon Jesus. “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,” I thought, then vocalized. The struggle of wills became more intense. My desperation became more desperate. I kept calling, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.” After what felt to be a lengthy battle, I felt something on my feet. Peering over my covers, as I had done as a child, uncertain of what I might see, I cried out, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus” ...then again, over and over, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.”

Fear held me. I lay motionless, glaring for but a second or two at the source of my battle sitting on my feet. As quickly as I saw it, it disappeared. It was the demon that was in me filled with anger and bitterness. I cried out again, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.” It was then that peace and an overwhelming comfort penetrated every cell of my body. I smiled. I laughed. I experienced love. Jesus came. Jesus filled me with His Spirit. My life changed. Who I was prior to this early morning battle had disappeared. I was now on a journey from which, to this day, I have not turned back.

CHANGES

With this change of spirit also came many changes in my understanding of life and truth. One of these had to do with how the world was not moving toward bigger and better things, but to its end. Realizing that the end would dissolve humanity into an eternity of either God's kingdom or the lake of fire spurred me to encourage others to repent and turn toward Christ. A Scripture

I've embraced since the early days of receiving Christ's love was Mark 1:15. This Scripture let me know that the world is moving toward its end, God's kingdom will replace our present world, and we need to repent and believe the message Jesus taught to prepare for eternity. My number one focus was now to encourage others to repent and prepare for Christ's return...that would change in 2005.

In 2005, twenty-nine years after committing my life to Christ, I experienced a very personal, knife-cutting side of the last days as I understood that the church would enter great apostasy and deception, where most claiming the name of Christ would have an image of being a Christian without the power of the Holy Spirit to actually be Christian. I've taught and preached this many times, but the reality of it all took on a new depth, a new intensity. This concept cut me deep as I realized that a person does not live in apostasy and deception knowing they have been deceived.

I began to question who I was as a Christian, whether I was a true Christian, who and what I was as a pastor, and was I really prepared to stand eyeball-to-eyeball with the God who created me? Certain Scriptures such as 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 2 Timothy 3:5, and Revelation chapters 2 and 3 would burn within me, unsettling the Christianity I had grown up with. Each of these Scriptures had to do with Christians thinking they were Christian when they were not Christian at all. Eventually I made changes which included stepping down from my position as a "professional pastor"¹ in 2008 to become a "normal," everyday Christian. This repentance was equivalent to my initial repentance over forty years ago. Forty years ago, I gave up sin; in 2008 I gave up everything I thought I knew about Christianity and the church.

After this change, I began to see an urgent side of the last days (2008 to the present). I realized, like never before, that if I live a natural and long life my eyes will see the Antichrist and experience the earth's last seven years. With this understanding my focus shifted to helping others understand where we are on the prophetic timeline. Scripture, such as Daniel 11:33 and Revelation 10:10-11 now spurs me on with their encouragement to teach prophecy to many.

THAT'S WHY JESUS CAME, RIGHT?

Also spurring me on were the many conversations I've had about the last days and comments such as the one that Ron made:² "That's why Jesus came, right? To tell us about these things so we will know without a doubt?"

Ron was typical of so many I've discussed the last days with. He was not lacking knowledge of the events of these days: apostasy, the Antichrist, the great tribulation, the return of Christ. His pressing issue was: "Since Jesus came to tell us about the last days, gave us events to look for,

¹ "Professional" is used in the sense that I worked in a denomination full-time, receiving from them a pay check, benefits, perks, retirement, etc.

² Ron is not his real name. The quotes are typical of numerous conversations I've had with others.

and told us to be ready, then we should be able to know where we are and whether we are there yet, right?”

Though Ron knew the events of the last days, he didn't know how to organize them into a roadmap to give assurance of where he was on the prophetic timeline. How was he to know, especially with all the contradicting teachings and books on the last days?

Since this revelation, and burning in my heart, I have written three books on the timelines recorded in the Bible, and produced two charts. The timelines I outline in my books and charts are those recorded in the Bible with a beginning, an end, and a sequence of events moving from beginning to end that doesn't need you or me to reorder them. The ordering is determined by the historical dating and personalities involved.

The prophetic timelines gives the assurance of knowing how close we are to the appearance of the Antichrist, Christ's coming, and the rapture. We can know the ordering of prophetic events since all prophetic events are dated, either by historical dates or the personalities involved. For more information on my books and charts, see my website at www.hope-for-today.com.

With Prayer and the Love of Christ,
Steve

Taken from the book, "[Age of the Antichrist, ARE WE THERE YET?](#)" which may be downloaded as a free download when you click on the link.

www.hope-for-today.com